

Office of Legislative Counsel

Journal

Wednesday - 18 February 1959

1. Met with Robert Smart to check several matters relating to the CIA Subcommittee of House Armed Services. I inquired whether he was aware of any knowledge by members of the Subcommittee of NSA activities or comment. He indicated quite firmly that he was sure they had no knowledge on this subject.

I mentioned to Mr. Smart the hearings on the National Security Act of 1947 before the Clare Hoffman Committee which was the old House Committee on Expenditures and predecessor to Government Operations. He saw no reason why the Agency, if it desired to review this, should not go directly to Mr. Dawson, Chairman of the present House Government Operations Committee.

I also mentioned to Mr. Smart the internal handling of our transcript. He was advised that the reporter, Miss Peterson, has been instructed to prepare the transcript to the best of her ability, checking only for spellings, but that no official in CIA will review or edit the transcript prior to its being returned to the Subcommittee. Mr. Smart seemed appreciative of this arrangement. I informed Mr. Smart of the adjustment in the proposed agenda for the next two meetings and he thought this was entirely up to the Agency. In connection with publication of the fact of the Subcommittee having met, Mr. Smart advised that he has advised the Press Gallery today of the fact of the meeting yesterday and those persons who were present from the Agency. It apparently is the Subcommittee's decision to make public the fact of meetings only after the meetings have occurred and arrangements will be made to specify those individuals who have been present. In addition, Mr. Smart pointed out he had received a telephone call from one of the more prominent reporters who asked what was going on with CIA in connection with Subcommittee meetings. Mr. Smart gave him the general information asking that it not be attributed to Smart or any member of the Subcommittee. Smart reported that the reporter commented that this seemed to be a rather thorough going review and would result in the Subcommittee knowing more about the Agency than anyone else on Capitol Hill.

2. [redacted], Liaison Division of OCR, called to report a request from the Atomic Energy Commission for information on the Youth Congress on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy held in Moscow last year. AEC wants this information in order to respond to a request from Congressman Albert Thomas (D., Tex.), newly appointed to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. [redacted] is obtaining this information from [redacted] and was advised that unless security classification Review 20050100, this report should be provided to AEC so long as [redacted] has no objection.

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